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C O M M E N T

OF

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce

ON

An Act respecting Medical Services Insurance

November 25, 1963

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November 25th, 1963

Mr. T. C. Clarke, Secretary, Medical Services Insurance Inquiry, Room 418, 67 College Street, Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It is with pleasure that the Board of Directors of The Ontario Chamber of Commerce presents its comments on "An Act respecting Medical Services Insurance" (Bill 163, 4th session, 26th Legislature, Ontario.)

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce is a federation of some 240 Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce representing approximately 50,000 business and professional people throughout the Province of Ontario. Policy decisions of the Ontario Chamber are determined by majority vote of Boards and Chambers at an annual meeting.

The Ontario Chamber believes in an economic system based on private initiative and individual enterprise. It also recognizes the need for appropriate participation in the promotion of public health by all levels of Government; and recommends that such participation be directed toward assisting those persons who are unable to provide for their medical expenses.

The type of legislation proposed by Bill 163 is consistent with the basic attitude of the Ontario Chamber concerning governmental involvement in health services. The Ontario Chamber specifically urges the government to provide "...a favourable climate in which the existing prepaid medical care agencies may extend their services." And the Chamber suggests that as there will always exist a portion of the population who are unable to provide for their medical expenses the "Government provision of health services, in addition to those already provided, should be confined to this group."

For the reasons mentioned the Ontario Chamber of Commerce supports the concept of legislation as proposed by Bill 163.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. Anderson, M.D., Chairman, Health Committee, The Ontario Chamber of Commerce. W. B. C. Burgoyne, President, The Ontario Chamber of Commerce

Mr. T. C. Clarke, Redretary, Medical Services lusmrands haddirs, Room 418, 67 College Street, Torobro, Ontario.

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